

Date: Sun, 25 Jul 93 04:30:17 PDT
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V93 #897
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest Sun, 25 Jul 93 Volume 93 : Issue 897

Today's Topics:

 4U1WB
 impatient newbie ham
 STILL waiting for your license? Read this and weep!
 Testing in PA?

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: 23 Jul 93 19:01:13 GMT
From: ogicse!uwm.edu!cs.utexas.edu!gerald@cc.utexas.edu!emx.cc.utexas.edu!not-
for-mail@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: 4U1WB
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

ed@imp.pnl.GOV (N7YQR) asks:

>I recently got a card back from a contact with 4U1WB, the World Bank
>headquartered in Washington, DC. My question is: for DXCC purposes does this
>count the same as a qso with the UN?

 No, it counts as the U.S.A.

>The ARRL DXCC Countries list shows two
>different 'countries' for the 4U1 prefix: UN Hdqrtrs in NA and ITU Hdqrtrs in
>EU. The reason I'm confused is that most callsigns are associated with a
>specific country and the 4U1 prefix isn't.

4U is allocated to the U.N., which of course is not a "specific country". If you hear a station signing something/4U, work it - it may well be Syria or somewhere else where there is a UN peace-keeping force.

There is also 4U1VIC, but this counts as Austria. I'm not clear why the UN building is a separate 'country' while the World Bank is not, nor why 4U1ITU counts but 4U1VIC doesn't.

Of course, there are other prefixes that cover several countries, like VP8 (Falklands, Antarctica, S. Shetlands, S. Georgia, South Sandwich, S. Orkneys - all separate countries....).

>I realize I can just send it in with the next batch of
>cards to the DXCC desk and find out, but I just got curious...

Only do this if you don't have a W card...

Derek Wills (AA5BT, G3NMX)
Department of Astronomy, University of Texas,
Austin TX 78712. (512-471-1392)
oo7@astro.as.utexas.edu

Date: 23 Jul 93 18:27:39 GMT
From: techbook.com!techbook.com!not-for-mail@uunet.uu.net
Subject: impatient newbie ham
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Tom Bodoh (bodoh@dggs.cr.usgs.gov) wrote:
: In article <22a6hpINNqg8@uwm.edu>, pachner@csd4.csd.uwm.edu (Thomas Jay Pachner)
writes:
: |> I am curious to know how long it has taken new licensees within the last year
: |> to receive their license. I am learning the definition of eternity.
: |>

: Assuming that you tested with a ARRL VE team, the VE and VEC are not the
: big holdup. Our VE's mail their paperwork to the ARRL the next day and
: they said that the ARRL processes them the day received and Fedex's them
: to the FCC. They also said that the FCC then keys them in (in Gettysburgh)
: and then sends them by modem to the DC office. They then do some checking
: (to see if you have a lifetime suspension, etc) and then print your license
: and enter you in the database. I wouldn't be surprised if they also ran the
: names of the applicants against the most wanted list and a list of those
: delinquent on school loans - allowing for interagency cooperation. I've heard

: that there are two part-timers that do the data entry on Thursdays.

: I like the recent FCC proposal to allow VE's to issue instant callsigns - or
: were they temporary callsigns?

After mentioning to a friend that the 8 week wait for my
ticket had come and gone with no ticket in sight,
he sent me the following mail...

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> To: genew@techbook.com
> Subject: Okay... Since you asked,
> Date: Mon, 19 Jul 1993 15:06:07 -0700
> From: David Simmons <davids@ims.com>
> Status: RO
>
>
> I KNOW who's holding up your license. It's... (drum roll...)
>
> Repeter Peter!
>
> It's buried on his desk where he works, at the headquarters of ARRL (Anally
> Retentive Regulation Lovers).
>
> In case you're wondering who he is, if you'll give it a moment's thought,
> you've seen him any number of times.
> He's at every "bunny hunt", "field day", etc.
> You can recognize him by his bumbling gait, his beat-up "juicer hat",
> (you know, the kind with the brim turned down all the way around,
> that looks sort of like a tortoise road-kill), with all the pins and
> buttons on it that he's gotten from various ham "gatherings",
> and - of course, NEVER leave home without it - his HT, which he holds
> clutched in his hand at all times.
>
> Your license might or might not surface on his desk eventually.
> He only goes to work, (taking the term loosely), at ARRL about 2 or 3 days
> a week, and even when he's there, he spends most of his time leaning on
> things near the desks of the others of his kind who work (?) there,
> chewing the rag, (as best he can with dentures), and distracting THEM
> from doing anything about the pile of license applications on THEIR desks.
>
> About the only way you'll ever get the application to surface is to go
> directly to where Peter works, and catch him there. You might have to
> camp out overnight several nights, but eventually he'll show up.
> At that point, you can inform him that because, due to HIS intransigence,
> you are unable to get a license, you're going to start transmitting
> WITHOUT ONE. Even though you have no intention of doing any such thing,
> the mere suggestion of ANYone doing ANYthing to violate ANY sort of
> regulation, however small and insignificant, will brutally yank any
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> Anally Retentive Regulation Lover such as Peter out of its antenna
> daydreams, and back to semi-reality. And the implication that HE
> is RESPONSIBLE for this will further cause him to shuffle back to his
> desk and start shuffling through papers in search of your license
> application.
> Hopefully, he'll find it before the adrenalin wears off.
> (Hopefully, the adrenalin in his system won't counteract the nitroglycerin
> and cause a heater-to-cathode short, in which case your application will
> never see the light of day again...)
>
> There is another alternative: you COULD just go reapply and take the test
> again, this time using a REAL license-processing facility such as... what was
> it - W5YI, or something? and write it off as a learning experience in how to
> recognize an Anally Retentive Regulation Lover in general,
> a Repeter Peter specifically,
> and - most importantly - how to steer clear of both...

Having read his opinion I thought NO WAY! Those folks at ARRL know what it's like to wait around for the government to move forward. They will move heaven and earth to get the paperwork to the FCC ASAP.

NOT!!!!!!!!!!

I called the ARRL VE info number, 1-800-9ARRLVE.

The local testing group sent the paperwork in promptly, by overnight mail.

The Anally Retentive Regulation Lovers hung onto it for 17-19 days!

I quote the ARRL representative,
"The laws allows both the local VE's and the ARRL to take upto 10 DAYS each."

Not only did the ARRL use it's 10 day allotment but sucked up the field VE's as well.

As you may have noticed, I am not impressed!
Their representative reminded me of how much faster and more efficient they are compared to the FCC and recommended that I call my Congressman and ask for more money for the FCC. That, said he, will speed things up.

I am not going to hold my breath waiting for the government to speed ANYthing up no matter how much money they get.

My "positive" suggestion:

The ARRL should be a different story! If they need more people, I for one would cheerfully double, triple, or quadruple the \$5+ dollar fee for testing if it got the damn papers shuffled expeditiously!

You can't buy a rubber dummyload for your HT for \$20. What's \$20 to whack

2-3 weeks off of the already interminable wait for your license.

I had made a commitment to help provide emergency communications at an upcoming event. I prefer to keep my commitments, but I don't seem to have any options this time.

See topic "STILL waiting for your license?"

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Those who beat their swords into plowshares
are destined to plow for those who don't.
genew@techbook.COM

Please direct flames to: genew@ucant.gethere.frmhere

Date: 23 Jul 93 08:00:49 GMT
From: techbook.com!techbook.com!not-for-mail@uunet.uu.net
Subject: STILL waiting for your license? Read this and weep!
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Tom Bodoh (bodoh@dgg.cr.usgs.gov) wrote:

: ARRL - what's the real scoop? Please answer here rather than email - it
: seems that inquiring minds want to know...

I got a response by e-mail, but don't consider it appropriate to post it publicly. I hope that they will defend themselves publicly.

One area I would like detailed is EXACTLY what they must do to each application before forwarding it to the FCC.

The 610 and all the tests are filled out when they get them, as far as I can tell. There must be something that is not obvious that they do.

What is it, And why can W5YI complete the same function so much more efficiently?

I find it interesting that ALL responses to my original post, e-mail and personal, (excepting those from ARRL), have been statements supporting my view.

The Anally Retentive Regulation Lovers, (pardon my sense of humor), have an image problem, and not just with people waiting for their license but hams of long standing.

They do provide a service though, and I would not seek to dissuade anyone from joining. I read their magazine and will likely join myself. I would like to see them work on this problem.

BTW, The individual I spoke to was very helpful in providing all the information available to him and I have no malice against any person at the ARRL. If the department handling the paperwork needs help I would like to see them get it.

I believe the SYSTEM is the problem, NOT the people!

Gene

--

Those who beat their swords into plowshares
are destined to plow for those who don't.
genew@techbook.COM

Please direct flames to: genew@ucant.gethere.frmhere

Date: 23 Jul 93 12:55:00 GMT
From: pitt.edu!dsinc!ub!acsu.buffalo.edu!ubvms.cc.buffalo.edu!
v087jsfu@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Testing in PA?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I need to know any FCC testing in the Erie, PA area over the next couple of months. The info is for my aunt. Thanks for the help.

N2UPM
Danny Anderson

Date: Sun, 25 Jul 1993 00:03:37 MDT
From: destroyer!cs.ubc.ca!alberta!adec23!ve6mgs!usenet@uunet.uu.net
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <21dmb8\$17q@usenet.INS.CWRU.Edu>, <Ne0X7B1w165w@nj8j.atl.ga.us>,
<1993Jul22.191156.19063@ve6mgs.ampr.org>
Reply-To : mark@ve6mgs.ampr.ab.ca
Subject : Re: How does an American sign in Canada?

mark@ve6mgs.ampr.org (Mark G. Salyzyn) writes:

>You are constrained by both laws. ie, you can not operate outside any

>Canadian band (ie, Canadians do not have anything above 450MHz on the
>70cm band) AND you must observe all your US band and mode requirements

I actually 'should' have said below 430MHz (My latest US bandplan lists
'Mericans have 420-450MHz, Canadians have 430-450MHz). An American in
Canada is limited to the 430-450 as that complies with both laws.

Ooops Ciao -- 73 de VE6MGS/Mark -sk-

End of Info-Hams Digest V93 #897
